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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/879,169	06/13/2001	Seong Jin Jo	K-0294	3663

34610 7590 06/24/2003

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EXAMINER

STINSON, FRANKIE L

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1746

DATE MAILED: 06/24/2003

12

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/879,169

Applicant(s)

JO ET AL.

Examiner

FRANKIE L. STINSON

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 June 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 9-21 and 23-31 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 9-21 and 23-30 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

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1. Claim 23 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Re claim 23, lines 1-2, the phrase "the operation records" is without proper antecedent basis.

2. The indicated allowability of claims 10, 11, 21 and 23-30 is withdrawn in view of the newly discovered reference to Makino et al. and a new reading of the Manson and Kuroda references. Rejections on the newly cited new and understood references follow. The delay is regretted.

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 9-21 and 23. are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over either Manson or Kuroda et al. in view of Makino et al.

Re claims 9 and 10, Manson is cited disclosing a washing machine comprising a storage tank (26), an inner rotatable tub (28), a load part including a motor (32) to rotate the tub, a water supply configured to supply water (not shown, but obviously provided) and a drain (also not show, but obviously provided) configured to drain water from the tub, and a control system comprising a memory configured to store an operational history of the washing machine, see col. 2, lines 45-47, where there is disclosed a system for gathering and *"storing data during the operation of the automatic appliance"*

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and also at col. 9, lines 52-55 where there it is disclose that is the "operational data (history) is stored (memorized)", and a microprocessor (U1) configured to control the load part based on the operation history of the memory, see col. 14, lines 5-25 where the motor load part is controlled and col. 14, lines 50-67, where the drain load part is controlled, that differs from the claim only in the recitation of the supply load part being controlled. The patent to Kuroda is cited disclosing, inherently in a washing machine, a storage tank, an inner tub rotatable in the storage tank, a load part including a motor, a water supply and a drain, a driver microprocessor, (8a, 8b) for controlling a load part, a memory (7e) for storing data (signals) on the operation conditions (history, see col. 1, lines 28-32) and a microprocessor (7a) configured to control operation of the motor load part (via speed sensors) based on the operation history (conditions) that differs from the claim only in the recitation of controlling the water supply load part and the drain load part. The patent to Makino is cited disclosing in a washing machine having a memory for recording the operation of a washing machine, a system for controlling the a motor load part as well as a water supply load part and a drain load part (see, col. 5, 13-45) as a function of the record of operation. It therefore would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to modify the device of either Manson or Kuroda, to control either the motor load part, the water supply load part or the drain load part as taught by Makino, since this is merely an extension of the teachings of Manson and since Kuroda discloses that "to perform sufficient remote control, however, as many sensors as possible" may be employed (see col. 2, lines 22-24). Re claim 11, Kuroda discloses the drive microprocessor (8a, 8b) for controlling the load part and a system

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microprocessor (7a, 7b) for communicating with drive microprocessor and the same being integrated. Re claims 12 and 13, Manson, Kuroda and Makino disclose the keyed interface. Re claim 14, Manson and Makino disclose the stroke. Re claim 15, Manson, Makino and Kuroda disclose the display. Re claim 16, Manson discloses the LED while Kuroda and Makino disclose the LCD. Re claim 17-19, Kuroda discloses the external interface, PC and communication port. Re claim 20, no patentable distinction is deemed to exist between the external interface as claimed and that as taught by Kuroda. This is also applicable to the flash memory as claimed in claim 21 in view of the memory as taught by either Manson, Kuroda or Makino. Re claim 23, Makino discloses the data including one or more of temperature rise, or speed of the motor, water supply time, water drain time and out-of-order signals.

5. Claim 24- 31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Makino et al. or Manson et al. in view of Kuroda et al.

Re claims 24 and 31, Makino is cited disclosing washing machine comprising a motor, a load part including water supply and drain, a driver operating the motor, a memory continuously storing the wash cycle options and operational history and a microprocessor configured to read stored user cycle options and history (see col. 3 lines 28-49) that differs from the claim only in the recitation of the upload to an external device. Manson is cited disclosing a washing machine comprising a motor, a load part including a water supply and a water drain, a driver operating the motor, a memory and a microprocessor configured to read stored user cycle options and history (see col. 4, line 61 thru col. 7, linen 22) that differs from the claim only in the recitation of the upload

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to an external device. Kuroda is cited disclosing a washing machine having a motor, a driver for the same, a load part comprising a water supply and drain, a memory for storing the operation history and an upload to an external device. Kuroda is cited disclosing the control of a load part and uploading to an external device. It therefore would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to modify the device of either Makino or Manson, to include an upload to an external device as taught by, Kuroda, for the purpose of diagnosing washer performance or malfunction at a central or remote location. Re claim 25, Kuroda discloses the new-operations download. Re claim 26, Manson, Makino and Kuroda each disclose either the motor temperature, motor speed, water supply period drain period. Re claim 27, Manson and Makino, as proposedly modified in view of Kuroda, disclose the load part being operated based upon new was cycle options as claimed. Re claim 28, Kuroda discloses the driver and memory integrated. Re claim 29, Kuroda discloses the PC. Re claim 30, to employ a flash memory is not deemed d to structurally/patentably define over the memory of either Makino or Kuroda.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to FRANKIE L. STINSON whose telephone number is (703) 308-0661. The examiner can normally be reached during the first week of the pay-period M-F from 5:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and during the second week of the pay-period from Tu-Th second from 5:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and on Fri. from 5:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Alternating Mondays off.

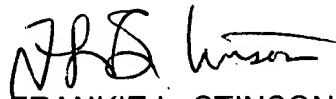
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The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 305-7719.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0661.

Any inquiry for missing parts of this Office Action (copies of references, pages, forms etc.), contact Office Manager Ms. Sandra Sewell (703) 308-0661.

fls


FRANKIE L. STINSON
Primary Examiner
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